

# **NEWS FROM**

## **KHEAA–Alabama**

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### **Financial Aid Tip of the Month, February 2009**

#### **ACHE offers several student aid programs**

Alabama students headed to college have several state financial aid programs for which they may be eligible.

The Alabama Commission on Higher Education (ACHE) administers five programs that can help Alabamians pay for college. They include the Alabama Student Assistance Program grant, which provides up to \$2,500 to needy undergraduate students attending eligible Alabama colleges. To be considered, a student must file the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

The Alabama Student Grant is a similar program that offers smaller grants for students attending certain private colleges in the State. It provides up to \$1,200 per year if funds are available. Applications may be obtained from private colleges' financial aid offices.

The third ACHE program provides educational assistance to the dependent or spouse of a police officer or firefighter killed or permanently disabled in the line of duty in Alabama. This program is for undergraduates attending a public Alabama college. It covers tuition, fees, books and supplies, with no limit on the amount awarded. Contact ACHE at P.O. Box 302000, Montgomery, AL 36130-2000 or (334) 242-2273 for an application.

Another ACHE program provides tuition grants for undergraduate study to members of the Alabama National Guard. Guard members can receive up to \$1,000 per year through this program. Contact your local Guard unit for an application.

The fifth program provides four-year, \$20,000 scholarships to 100 high school seniors planning to be math, special education, general science or English/language arts teachers. Additional scholarships will be awarded to professionals seeking an alternative degree in teaching. You may download an application from <http://www.atrip.alabama.gov>, or you may contact a high school guidance counselor or college financial aid office.

For more information about student financial aid and college planning, visit [www.alstudentaid.com](http://www.alstudentaid.com); write KHEAA–Alabama, 100 North Union Street, Suite 390, Montgomery, AL 36104-3761; or call 334-265-9720, toll free (800) 721-9720.